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TITLE OF THE THESIS

An Evaluation of Wadi Project on Tribes of Raigarh (Chhattisgarh): An Anthropological Study

INTRODUCTION

NABARD: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex development bank in India headquartered in Mumbai (Maharashtra) and other branches are distributed all over the country. It was established on 12 July 1982 by a special act by the parliament and its main focus was to uplift rural India by increasing the credit flow for elevation of agriculture & rural non farm sector and completed its 25 years on 12 July 2007. It has been accredited with "*matters concerning policy, planning and operations in the field of credit for agriculture and other economic activities in rural areas in India*". Role of NABARD in overall development of rural India in general and agriculture in specific is highly pivotal.

Tribal Development Fund, an ambitious initiative from NABARD based on the successful experience of Adivasi Development Programmes, NABARD embarked upon an ambitious program of replicating the wadi model across the country. In this direction, NABARD created a Tribal Development Fund (TDF) with a corpus of Rs. 50 crores, out of its profits for 2003-04. The corpus has now grown to Rs. 575 crores. All projects under TDF are implemented by partnering with State Governments, Government of India, NGOs and Corporates.

WADI PROJECT: The “Wadi” model of tribal development is holistic in approach addressing production, processing and marketing of the produce and also other needs. The core of the programme is “Wadi” and other development interventions are built around “Wadi”. The “Wadi”' in Gujarati means a 'small orchard' covering one or two acres. The ‘‘Wadi’’ as an effective tool for tribal development evolved gradually out of two decades of concerted efforts made by BAIF in Vansda (Gujarat). The “Wadi” may be of mango or cashew or amla or any fruit crop suitable to the area or a combination of these tree crops, with forestry species on the periphery of the land holdings. Two or more tree crops are selected in the ‘‘Wadi’’ model to minimize the climatic, biological and marketing risks. Tribal families having less than 5 acre land is given 1 acre wadi each for raising 60 fruit plants suitable to local area and 600 forestry plants on the boundary. The first Wadi project of Chhattisgarh was launched by NABARD through Raigarh Sahyog Samiti (NGO) in 2005. In the first phase, 250 tribal families were taken into consideration from Dharamjaigarh block of Raigarh district.

RAIGARH SAHYOG SAMITI: Raigarh Sahyog Samiti is a registered non-government organisation (NGO) dedicated to social and economical welfare of people at grassroot level. Currently working in 140 remote villages in Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh and firmly believes that government alone cannot achieve goals in addressing needs of rural and tribal society but professionals participation at grassroot level is essential for a caring, responsive and service delivery network. It emphasizes on flexibility, responsiveness, ongoing commitment and innovation as key factors.

SHEDULED TRIBES: The term "Scheduled Tribes" first appeared in the Constitution of India. Article 366 (25) defines Scheduled Tribes as "Such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this Constitution". Article 342 prescribes the procedure to be followed in the matter of specification of Scheduled Tribes.

Empowered by Clause (1) of Article 342, the President may, with respect to any State or Union Territory, and where it is a State, after consultation with the Governor thereof, notify tribes or tribal communities or parts of these as Scheduled Tribes.

The tribal population of India constitutes around 8.142% of total population distributed over 94,000 tribal villages. Tribes are mainly concentrated in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal, North-Eastern States and North-Western Himalayan States. 8.44% of total Scheduled tribes of India are concentrated in Chhattisgarh. There are 31 Scheduled tribes including five primitive tribal groups in Chhattisgarh namely Kamar, Abhujhmaria, Pahari Korwa, Birhor and Baiga. Tribes namely Kanwar, Birhor, Majhwar, Majhi and Oraon will be covered in the present study.

CHHATTISGARH: Chhattisgarh is one of the state of the Indian nation constituted on 1st November,2000 and shares its borders with six States of the country; Uttar Pradesh to the north, Jharkhand to the north-east, Orissa to the east, Madhya Pradesh to the west and north-west, Maharashtra to the south-west and Andhra Pradesh to the south-east.

RAIGARH: Raigarh defines the geographical area of the study. Raigarh is located at 21.9°N 83.4°E. It has an average elevation of 705 feet. In 2011, Raigarh had population of 1,493,627 of which male and female were 749,439 and 744,188 respectively. There was change of 18.02 percent in the population compared to population as per 2001. In census of India 2001, Raigarh district recorded an increase of 18.72 percent to its population compared to 1991. The initial provisional data suggest a density of 211 in 2011 compared to 179 of 2001. Total area under Raigarh district is of about 7079 sq.kms.

Average literacy rate of Raigarh in 2011 was 73.70% compared to 70.16% of 2001. If things are looked out at gender wise, male and female literacy were 84.17 and 63.25 respectively. For 2001 census, same figures stood at 82.70 and 57.62 in Raigarh District. Total literate in Raigarh district were 959,866 of which male and female were 547,886 and 411,980 respectively. With regards to Sex Ratio in Raigarh, it stood at 993 per 1000 male compared to 2001 census figure of 994. The average national sex ratio in India is 940 as per latest reports of Census 2011 Directorate.

TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT: In 1955, Nehru had addressed an All India Conference of Tribes in Jagdalpur, Bastar District of Chhattisgarh (Then Madhya Pradesh) and had said: 'Wherever you live, you should live in your own way. This is what I want you to decide yourselves. How would you like to live? Your old customs and habits are good. We want that they should survive but at the same time we want that you should be educated and should do your part in the welfare of the country.'

And now, here are his five fundamental principles for tribal development -

1. People should develop along the line of their own genius and we should avoid imposing anything on them. We should try to encourage in every way their own traditional art and culture.
2. Tribal rights to land and forest should be respected.
3. We should try to train and build up a team of their own people to do the work of administration and development. Some technical personnel from outside will no doubt, be needed, especially in the beginning. But we should avoid introducing too many outsiders into tribal territory.
4. We should not over administer these areas or overwhelm them with a multiplicity of schemes. We should rather works through, and not in rivalry to, their own social and cultural institutions.
5. We should judge results, not by statistics or the amount of money spent, but by the quality of human character that is evolved.

Tribal development is a very complicated task and needs more careful attention than has been paid to it so far.

EVALUATION: Evaluation in supervision is defined as the objective appraisal of worker's total functioning on the job over a specified period of time (Schmidt and Perry 1940). Evaluations help motivate, direct and integrate learning (Abbott and Lyter 1998). The supervisor is stimulated to learn and change to achieve a good evaluation. A systematic review of what one learned helps consolidate it.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE WORK ALREADY DONE IN THE FIELD

An attempt is made under this section to provide a review of literature that will help to understand the prominent features of tribal life and enable us to thrash out significant issues pertaining of the tribes and tribal people and develop requisite theoretical insights to comprehend.

1. Nag D.D and Saxena R.P (1958) studied scientifically about tribal economy in India. Nag made an extensive field tour in the areas of Madhya Pradesh like Mandla, Bilaspur, Durg, Balaghat and studied the Baiga economy in the context of general economic theories lying emphasis on the sources of economy of Baigas. Saxena followed a model of Nag and studied the tribals of Western Hills in Madhya Pradesh and presented the economy of five tribes.
2. Sachchidananda (1971) describes the resettlement of tribals which was carried out both under the programme of resettlement of landless agricultural labourers introduced during the Third Five Year Plan period and other special schemes.
3. Danda (1976) examines the process of change in the Kanwar policy on the basis of the intensive study of four Kanwar dominant villages; one of the agriculturist tribe of Central India having their highest concentration in Raigarh district of Madhya Pradesh (now in Chhattisgarh), represent various level of techno-cultural efficiency obtained through exposure and time by different sections of tribe in this area.
4. Bose Nirmal Kumar (1977) gives some insight into the tribe's social life. Tribes differ from others in their social system. They have retained their own marriage regulation. Almost all marry within their restricted local group and are sometimes guided by their own elders or political chief in internal and external affairs. They form socially distinct communities who have been designated as tribes and listed in the Schedule for special treatment so that within a relatively short time they can come within the mainstream of political and economic life in India.
5. Mohsin M.A (1978) focusing on the tribal farmers of Chotanagpur and Santhal Parganas in particular examines how tribal families are caught up in a number of economic, social, agricultural and other vicious circles as well as Gordian knots.
6. Mohanty L.C (1989) discussed for the urgent necessity of evaluating how far tribals have improved their economic conditions and how far they have been integrated into the larger Indian society. He believes that giving tribals full freedom to manifest their genious will help their integration.
7. Sharma A.N and Kumar Rajesh (1998) worked on three tribal groups i.e. Nicobarese of Harminder bay, Little Andaman; Onge settlement of Dugong Greek, Little Andaman; and the Jarawas as fowl-bay, middle Andaman. They grouped the problem of development of the Nicobarese into five groups: a) Techno-ecological problems b) Ecological problems c) Educational problems d) Health and Nutrition

problems e) Demographic problems. In their study, they concluded that Christian missionaries played an important for the development and welfare of the Nicobarese tribe.

8. Paul Kakali (2002) worked in four tribal groups- the Santhal, tha Mahali, the Kora and the Sardar making a total of 264 beneficiary holders in Birbhum district of West Bengal. Result shows that out of 264; 39 beneficiary households are landless. 39.02% of beneficiary households are literate. Educational level of a tribal household is directly proportional to the economic condition of the households. Lack of awareness among the tribal beneficiaries is found to be another major and important reason for non viability of a scheme.
9. World Food Program In India (2004) worked on the topic “Innovative approaches to poverty targeting, participatory processes and best practices: A study of the Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Project”. Through the Self Help Groups (SHGs); the project was covered in Sarguja, Raigarh and Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh state.
10. National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW) in (2008) studied on socio - economic empowerment of women under National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) For Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) in Chhattisgarh, Orrissa, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. From Chhattisgarh state, Rajnandgaon district was selected and from this district; villages from two blocks namely Rajnandgaon and Dongargarh were considered for their work.

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of the present study with which the research is being conducted are listed below:-.

1. To evaluate the overall development status of beneficiary and non beneficiary tribal families through government and non government (NGO) development programmes.

2. To compare the socio-cultural, economic, educational and infrastructural status between the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries of Wadi project.

3. To analyze the status of mother and child health, and utilization of health services between the beneficiary and non beneficiary tribes.

4. To analyze the role and status of people of both the groups in their political organization.

5. To study the empowerment of tribal women in the study area.

6. To find drinking habits, criminal behavior and development barriers among the tribes.

7. To determine the environmental factors affecting the people of the study area.

NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTION IN THE FIELD OF PROPOSED WORK

'Wadi' of NABARD in Gujarat has brought a lot of changes in rural life through its programmes like Participatory Research for Natural Resource Management, Horticulture Development, Capacity Building of Rural People, Women Empowerment, Rural Sanitation, Health, Research & Planning, Agriculture and Non Farm Management.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

1. Selection of the research problem: First Wadi project of Chhattisgarh state was launched in 2005 which is the replica of Wadi project running in the development of tribal and rural population in Gujarat. As the Wadi project of NABARD is running very efficiently in Gujarat region therefore an attempt has been taken to focus on the status of Wadi project of Chhattisgarh and to know the success and the shortcomings of it.

2. Selection of research area: Since the Wadi project of NABARD in Chhattisgarh was introduced in Dharmjaigarh block of Raigarh district, this area is purposely selected for the present investigation.

3. Research Method to be followed: Scientific research method is used

4. Reseach Design to be used for the study: Experimental Research design

5. Selection of Villages:

Purposive method covering four villages Pandripani, Nagdarha, Siwar and Nawagaon

6. Selection of households:

a) Beneficiary households : Census method
b) Non-beneficiary households: Random sampling

7. Sample size:

250tribal families of first WADI project of Chhattisgarh by Census method and non beneficiary tribal families from the same villages through random sampling

8. Distribution of tribes in four villages

VILLAGE	KANWAR	BIRHOR	MAJHI	MAJHWAR	ORAON	TOTAL
PANDRIPANI	41	0	0	0	0	41
NAWAGAON	57	0	0	0	1	58
NAGDARHA	46	0	7	5	0	58
SIWAR	75	9	9	0	0	93
TOTAL	219	9	16	5	1	250

9. Tools and technique for primary data collection: Interview-schedule, Semi-participant Observation, Case study, Focused Group Discussion, Photography and Video recording

10. Tools for secondary data collection: Documents of Raigarh Sahyog Samiti, Wadi and NABARD; Journals, e- resources, Magazines, Census data

11. Data Analysis: Analysis through SPSS (ANOVA, t-test, Z test, Chi-square test, Correlation and other statistical tools will also be used as per the need)

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE PROPOSED WORK

The Wadi project of Gujarat is very successfully running inorder to uplift the life of the people and has brought lot of changes through its programmes like Participatory Research for Natural Resource Management, Horticulture Development, Capacity Building of Rural People, Women Empowerment, Rural Sanitation, Health, Research & Planning, Agriculture and Non Farm Management. In the same way, it is expected that situation of the tribes of Chhattisgarh have also improved compared with those who are devoid of the facilities provided through the project. The findings of the present study might focus on the status of this project in Chhattisgarh region so that the utilization of the programmes undertaken by the Wadi project can also be implemented in other areas and tribes of Chhattisgarh for the overall development of this region. To highlight the shortcomings of this project if any in this area and make fruitful suggestions for its efficiency.

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